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PRESS RELEASE

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LACDMH Will Premiere its 2013 Series, *Profiles of Hope*, on PBS/KLCS-TV, Featuring Three All-New Celebrities and Well-Known Personalities
The original series airs this Wednesday, and will be available for viewing and distribution.

Los Angeles, CA – The brand-new *Profiles of Hope*, created and produced as an original series by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), will make its broadcast debut this **Wednesday, May 22nd at 8PM** on **PBS/KLCS-TV** in Los Angeles. It will be used as a teaching tool to motivate audiences and erase stigma. With May nationally designated as Mental Health Awareness Month, the series will also be available for viewing on YouTube, Facebook, the LA County Channel and the LACDMH website.

Funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), *Profiles of Hope* is a set of 10-minute inspirational stories that spotlights high-profile individuals who candidly share how they overcame stigma and various obstacles to live successful and productive lives.

“When my work at LACDMH seems overwhelming, I watch the *Profiles*. The stories of recovery make me realize that our efforts to provide the best possible mental health treatment are absolutely the right things to do,” said LACDMH Director Marvin Southard, D.S.W.

Featured in the *Profiles of Hope* 2013 series are:

- Grammy Award-winning singer, actor and writer **Rick Springfield** who is well known for 17 hit songs on the Top 40 charts, including his #1 hit *Jessie’s Girl*, and for playing Dr. Noah Drake on the ABC daytime show *General Hospital*.
- Academy Award-nominated actor, model and writer **Mariel Hemingway**, granddaughter of legendary author Ernest Hemingway. She recently discussed her family’s history of mental illness in her upcoming autobiographic documentary, *Running from Crazy*.
- Emmy Award-winning director and producer **Paris Barclay** who is executive producer and principal director for F/X’s *Sons of Anarchy*. His credits include *NYPD Blue*, *ER*, *The West Wing*, *House*, *Glee* and *Smash*.

(More)

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The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health is the largest county-operated mental health department in the United States, directly operating 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites. Each year, it contracts with approximately 1,000 agencies and individual practitioners to provide a spectrum of mental health services to more than 250,000 residents of all ages. The Department's mission -- enriching lives through partnership to strengthen our community's capacity to support recovery and resiliency -- is accomplished by working with stakeholders and community partners to provide clinically competent, culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate mental health services to clients in the least restrictive manner possible.

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